



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

JUL - 1 2013

OFFICE OF
COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Reply to: OCE-133

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

WARNING LETTER

Rodney Vande Hoef
Owner/Operator
Rod Vande Hoef Dairy
2121 Stickney Island Road
Everson, Washington 98247

Re: January 29, 2013, NPDES Compliance Inspection
NPDES Identifier Number WAU000596

Dear Mr. Vande Hoef:

On January 29, 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inspected your facility to evaluate its compliance with the Clean Water Act (CWA). I would like to express my appreciation for your staff's time and cooperation during the inspection. At the time of inspection, the EPA inspector found one area of concern.

Waste Storage Tank – Young Stock Facility

The inspector identified the below ground waste storage tank was at capacity and liquid from the tank had exited the tank and travelled near a flooded grassy area south of the facility. Any discharge from the production area is considered a violation of the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) regulations, and a violation of the CWA if it reaches waters of the United States. Although this discharges did not reach waters of the United States, it is still a concern.

Please follow up with the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), and the Whatcom Conservation District to ensure your facility complies fully with the state and local regulations. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call Steven Potokar, CAFO Enforcement Coordinator, at (206) 553-6354.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff KenKnight".

Jeff KenKnight, Manager
NPDES Compliance Unit

cc: Virginia Prest
Washington State Department of Agriculture

Steven Hulbert
Washington State Department of Agriculture

Doug Allen
Washington State Department of Ecology – Bellingham Field Office

George Boggs
Whatcom Conservation District